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(Provisional Agenda item 6(b))

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1994-1998

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The draft programme of work of the Commission for 1994-1998 is submitted (in Annex I) for the Commission's consideration and approval pursuant to operative paragraph 5(a) of its resolution 5 (XXIV). The nomenclature and the sequence of the subprogrammes have been amended to correspond to the provisions of Commission decision O (45), the ECE Medium Term Plan for 1992-1997 approved by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session and revised at its forty-seventh session, as well as the ECE programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, approved by the Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

2. The amendmerts to the programme of work approved by the Commission at its forty-ninth session will be incorporated by the secretariat in the text which will appear as Annex IV to the Commission's Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council.

3. In the case of the programme of work of the Commission itself (programme category 00), a draft has been prepared containing detailed descriptions of the programme elements, since this programme category is subject to review by the Commission at its annual session (Annex II). In certain cases these descriptions will have to be completed by the Executive Secretary after the forty-ninth session of the Commissio1 in order to reflect the relevant resolutions and other decisions which will be adopted at that session. Such programme elements are annotated: "To be completed as may be necessary".

4. In the framework of the procedures for prior consultation with the organizations of the United Nations system pursuant to Council resolution 1549 (XLIX), and in order to avoid any unnecessary duplication of work, the Executive Secretary has offered his comments, as in the past, to the executive

heads of those organizations who have transmitted to him their programmes of work. An account of the cooperation which has taken place during the past year between the ECE and the specialized agencies and other international organizations and institutions is given in the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1291.

5. With regard to the ECE pattern of meetings, the General Assembly in its resolution 48/222 approved the Calendar of Conferences and Meetings for 1994, which contains provision for the holding of the forty-ninth session of the Commission in April 1994. The following tentative schedule for the regular meetings of its Principal Subsidiary Bodies has been established, in accordance with the decisions taken by those bodies, for the period between the forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions of the Commission.

Committee on Agriculture	16-19 May	1994
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	30 May-3 June	
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	6-10 June	
Conference of European Statisticians	13-17 June	
Committee on Human Settlements	12-14 September	
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	21-23 September	
Timber Committee	11-14 October	
Committee on Energy	7-11 November	
Committee on the Development of Trade	6-8 December	
Inland Transport Committee	16-20 January	1995

Meetings and study tours

6. In 1993 the ECE held a total of 606 half-days of meetings serviced by the United Nations. Of these half-days of meetings, 8 were held outside Geneva, 28 were for meetings of ECOSOC bodies on the transport of dangerous goods and 53 were for meetings of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. In addition 94 half-days of meetings were held outside Geneva with services provided by the host authorities. For purposes of comparison the equivalent figures for the period 1985-1993 are given below:

	Geneva UN interpretation	Outside Geneva UN interpretation	Outside Geneva Host authorities interpretation
1985	778	68	124
1986	669	80	132
1987	685	60	123
1988	638	55	131
1989	639	95	101
1990	699	73	91
1991	651	20	113
1992	556	24	104
1993	570	8	94

7. The meetings held outside Geneva in 1993 under the auspices of the Commission took place at the invitation of the Governments of the following countries: Belarus (1); Canada (2); Denmark (1); Finland (3); France (2); Israel (2); Poland (2); Russian Federation (2); Slovakia (1); Sweden (1); Turkey (1); United Kingdom (1); and at the invitation of FAO (1); UNESCO (1) and OECD (1).

8. The Commission may wish to bear in mind that such meetings are organized only if the subsidiary body concerned has accepted an invitation extended by the host Government and that this decision is clearly reflected in the report of the body concerned. Moreover, the host Government is obliged, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/243 (I), to bear the additional costs of meetings attributable to the venue being away from the Commission's headquarters.

9. Study tours were organized during 1993 in the Czech Republic, Netherlands and Slovakia.

10. During 1993, and in accordance with decisions D (45), O (45) and B (48), 39 workshops were held to assist countries in transition to a market economy. These workshops are usually informal meetings with facilities and support provided by host Governments and/or sponsoring organizations (see E/ECE/1287). Workshops were held in or with the support of the following countries in 1993: Bulgaria (2), Belarus (1), Belgium (1), Croatia (1), Czech Republic (1), Cyprus (2), Estonia (2), Finland (1), France (2), Germany (4), Hungary (3), Israel (1), Latvia (1), Lithuania (1), Monaco (1), Netherlands (4), Poland (4), Romania (1), Russian Federation (2), Slovenia (2), Switzerland (2), Turkey (1), Ukraine (2).

Documentation

11. The following data (in terms of pages reproduced in the three working languages of the Commission) have been compiled and supplied by the Statistical Unit of the Editorial and Documents Control Section of the United Nations Office at Geneva. For purposes of comparison, the equivalent figures for the period 1985-1993 have been provided:

Year	Total physical pages reproduced in English, French and Russian
1985	106,748
1986	98,504
1987	88,383
1988	84,365
1989	85,899
1990	96,642
1991	94,988
1992	88,905
1993	96,615

ANNEX I

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1993-1997

Introduction

NOTE: The revised structure of the Commission, reflecting the provisions of decision O (45), notably the definition of priority areas of activity, corresponds to a large extent to the sub-programmes used in the ECE Programme Budget and the Medium-Term Plan. This correspondence is intended to provide greater homogeneity and transparency in the monitoring of programme delivery, both by the intergovernmental machinery of the Commission and United Nations legislative bodies responsible for the review of programmes and resources.

CATEGORY	SUB-PROGRAMME
00	Policy and coordination of the work of the Commission
01	Environment
02	Transport
03	Statistics
04	Trade facilitation
05	Economic analysis
06	Energy
07	Development of international trade
08	Industry and technology *
09	Agriculture and timber
10	Human settlements

* Some activities in these areas are carried out by Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission.

The programme of work on trade facilitation (04) and on development of international trade (07) will be issued as E/ECE/1290/Add.1 subsequent to the forty-second session of the Committee on the Development of Trade, scheduled for 1-3 March 1994.

SUB-PROGRAMME 00 - POLICY AND COORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

[See Annex II]

SUB-PROGRAMME 01 - ENVIRONMENT

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems, approved by the Senior Advisers at their sixth session (ECE/ENVWA/29, paras. 59-65 and Annex III) and restructured at their special session on 12 January 1994 (ECE/ENVWA/36).

Programme activity 01.1: "Environment for Europe" process

Programme elements

01.1.1 Environmental rights and obligations
01.1.2 Responsibility and liability
01.1.3 Environmental Programme for Europe

Programme activity 01.2: Strengthening environmental management capabilities

Programme elements

01.2.1 National environmental performance reviews
01.2.2 Improvement of environmental management in countries with economies in transition
01.2.3 Management of hazardous chemicals
01.2.4 Bilateral and multilateral financial cooperation of relevance to environmental protection

Programme activity 01.3: Promotion of sustainable development

Programme elements

01.3.1 Environment and economics
01.3.2 Regional strategy for integrated waste management
01.3.3 Low-waste technology and environmentally sound products
01.3.4 Environmental product profiles
01.3.5 Application of low-waste technology

Programme activity 01.4: Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in the Transboundary Context

Programme elements

01.4.1 Policies and strategies promoting environmental impact assessment
01.4.2 Legal and administrative aspects
01.4.3 Methodological aspects
01.4.4 Preparation of draft rules of procedure for the Meeting of Parties
01.4.5 Strengthening the capability of future Parties to comply with the obligations under the Convention

Programme activity 01.5: Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Programme elements

01.5.1 Policies and strategies
01.5.2 Prevention, control and reduction of pollution from point sources
01.5.3 Prevention, control and reduction of pollution from diffuse sources
01.5.4 Lists of hazardous substances and industrial sectors or industries from which these substances derive
01.5.5 Monitoring and assessment of conditions of transboundary waters

01.5.6 Bilateral and multilateral agreements and other arrangements regarding the protection and use of transboundary waters
01.5.7 Legal and administrative aspects
01.5.8 Guidelines on sustainable water management

Programme activity 01.6: Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Programme elements
01.6.1 Policies and strategies
01.6.2 Strengthening the ability of countries in transition to prevent, prepare for and respond to industrial accidents
01.6.3 Centres dealing with industrial accidents
01.6.4 Coordinating centre for past industrial accidents

SUB-PROGRAMME 02 - TRANSPORT

Authority: Programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-sixth session (ECE/TRANS/103, para. 157 and Add.1)

Programme activity 02.1: Transport trends and economics

Programme elements

02.1.1 Review of general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy (1)

02.1.2 Analysis of specific transport economic issues (2)

02.1.3 Development of transport in the Mediterranean Region (3)

Programme activity 02.2: Road transport

Programme elements

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure (1)

02.2.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations (1)

02.2.3 Road transport safety (1)

02.2.4 Construction of vehicles (1)

Programme activity 02.3: Rail transport

Programme elements

02.3.1 Rail transport infrastructure (1)

02.3.2 Linking of the European transport network to that of other regions' railways (3)

02.3.3 Harmonization of requirements concerning international railway transport and facilitation of its operations (1)

02.3.4 Rail safety (1)

Programme activity 02.4: Inland water transport

Programme elements

02.4.1 Inland waterway infrastructure (1)

02.4.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland waterway transport and facilitation of its operations, including study of legal provisions (2)

02.4.3 Harmonization and improvement of standards for inland navigation vessels (3)

02.4.4 Inland water transport safety (1)

Programme activity 02.5: Transport of dangerous goods

Programme elements

02.5.1 Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterways and combined transport (1)

Programme activity 02.6: Environmental protection and energy saving in transport

Programme elements

02.6.1 Impact of transport infrastructure and operations on the environment, including pollution and noise (1)

Programme activity 02.7: Combined transport

Programme elements

02.7.1 Promotion of combined and multimodal transport (1)

02.7.2 Safety requirements for the construction, maintenance and handling of combined transport equipment (2)

Programme activity 02.8: Customs questions affecting transport

Programme elements

02.8.1 Harmonization of requirements concerning several modes of transport and facilitation of their operation (2)

Programme activity 02.9: Transport of perishable foodstuffs

Programme elements

02.9.1 Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operation (2)

Programme activity 02.10: Transport statistics and information

Programme elements

02.10.1 Methods of collection and definition of statistics on inland transport and road traffic accidents (2)

02.10.2 Harmonization of transport statistics in Europe (3)

02.10.3 Publication of statistical information in the field of transport (3)

Programme activity 02.11: Facilitation of movement and transport of disabled persons

Programme elements

02.11.1 Road, rail and inland waterway transport aspects (3)

Programme activity 02.12: General issues

Programme elements

02.12.1 Periodical circulation of selected transport information (3)

SUB-PROGRAMME 03 - STATISTICS

Authority: Programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians, approved by the Conference at its forty-first session (ECE/CES/43, paras. 118-119 and CES/788/Rev.1).

Programme activity 03.1: Organization and operation of statistical services

Programme elements

03.1.1 Issues of statistical policy (A)
03.1.2 Adaptation of statistical services to transition and integration processes in Europe (A)
03.1.3 Promotion of the coordination of international statistical work (A)

Programme activity 03.2: Statistical information technology

Programme elements

03.2.1 Use of electronic data processing for statistical purposes (A)
03.2.2 Statistical Computing Programme (SCP) (A)
03.2.3 Design and development of statistical databases (A)
03.2.4 Regional project on applied statistical computing for transition countries (A)

Programme activity 03.3: Economic statistics

Programme elements

03.3.1 Development of national accounts (A/C)
03.3.2 Foreign trade statistics (C)
03.3.3 Indicators of short-term economic and technical change (C)
03.3.4 Manufacturing statistics (C)
03.3.5 Agricultural statistics (A)
03.3.6 Forest and forest industry statistics (A)
03.3.7 Statistics of services (A)
03.3.8 Transport statistics (A)
03.3.9 Statistics of household income (A)
03.3.03 Price and quantity statistics (A/C)
03.3.11 International comparisons (A/C)
03.3.12 Business registers in national statistical offices (A)
03.3.13 Methodological issues in the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of economic statistics (C)

Programme activity 03.4: Social and demographic statistics

Programme elements

03.4.1 Coordination of social and demographic statistics (A/B/C)
03.4.2 Methodological issues in the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of social and demographic statistics (C)
03.4.3 Registers and administrative record for social and demographic statistics (B)
03.4.4 Labour statistics (C)
03.4.5 Migration statistics (A)
03.4.6 Population and housing censuses (A)
03.4.7 Statistics on women (A)
03.4.8 Housing, building and related statistics (C)
03.4.9 Demographic projections (A)
03.4.03 Fertility surveys (C)

Programme activity 03.5: Natural resource and environment statistics

Programme elements

03.5.1 Energy statistics (A)

03.5.2 Development of concepts, definitions and classifications in individual areas of environment statistics

03.5.3 Development of the International Environmental Data Service (IEDS) (A/C)

03.5.4 Methodological problems of environment statistics (A/C)

03.5.5 Frameworks for environment statistics (C)

Programme activity 03.6: Support for publications, studies and projects

Programme elements

03.6.1 Publication of statistical bulletins (A)

03.6.2 Support for the statistical work of other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies (A)

03.6.3 Provision of statistical information for ECE studies and projects (A)

03.6.4 Substantive support for statistical activities financially supported by UNDP (C)

SUB-PROGRAMME 04 - TRADE FACILITATION

See E/ECE/1290/Add.1

SUB-PROGRAMME 05 - ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, approved by the Senior Advisers at their twenty-ninth session (ECE/EC.AD/42, paras. 44-51 and Annex)

Programme activity 05.1: Exchange of information on economic developments

Programme elements

05.1.1 Exchange of information on the development of national economies and on policies and programmes (1)

Programme activity 05.2: Long-term projections and perspectives

Programme elements

05.2.1 Growth conditions in the period 1994-1998 and their long-term implications (3)

05.2.2 Specialized long-term macroeconomic database and related modelling work (6)

Programme activity 05.3: Selected structural economic issues

Programme elements

05.3.1 International trade and structural changes - interregional and intraregional trends and policies (2)

05.3.2 Structural changes in the ECE region and their impact on employment, labour productivity, working patterns and income distribution (4)

05.3.3 Sustainable economic development (5)

* * *

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

Programme activity 05.4: Economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Programme elements

05.4.1 Review of economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: In response to Commission decisions O (45) and B (46), particular emphasis is given to the analysis of the transition economies and related policy issues. This is reflected in the annual Economic Survey of Europe and the Economic Bulletin for Europe, both of which contain an increased coverage of economic and policy developments in the transition economies. Both the Survey and the Bulletin, as well as other special studies and statistical bulletins prepared and published by the secretariat, are made available to the Commission for this annual review. In its decision B (46), the Commission invited the Senior Economic Advisers and

the secretariat, in accordance with the relevant provisions of decision O (45) and having in mind the right and responsibility of the secretariat to exercise independent judgement in its analysis, to deepen their consultations in order to achieve the highest quality of the Survey, notably by improving pre-publication exchange of views; and stressed the need for this Survey to be published in time to enable it to be properly studied and reflected upon during the annual session (paragraph 8).

Duration: Continuing

05.4.2 Population

Description: In accordance with the provisions of decision G (40), the Executive Secretary carries out work in the field of population, within existing resources, and maintains collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for the implementation of the relevant recommendations of regional meetings of experts on population convened periodically, but not more than every two years, in cooperation with UNFPA. These meetings aim to provide consultations amongst Governments and the dissemination and exchange of information on population problems and policies in the ECE region.

Work accomplished: Collaboration with UNFPA is maintained through projects dealing, respectively, with economic and social implications of aging, population and development in southern Europe, integration of population and socio-economic policies, migration, and promotion of fertility and family surveys in the ECE region. Funding for these projects is provided by UNFPA. ECE, in cooperation with the Council of Europe and UNFPA, organized a European Population Conference in Geneva in March 1993 as a regional contribution to the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 as mandated by the General Assembly.

Work to be undertaken: Follow-up to the regional conference and input into the World Conference in 1994, in cooperation and collaboration with the other relevant organizations, as well as the continuation of ongoing activities as described.

Duration: Continuing.

SUB-PROGRAMME 06 - ENERGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Energy, approved by the Committee at its third session (ECE/ENERGY/24, paras. 48-50 and Annex I.)

Programme activity 06.1: Energy reforms in central and eastern Europe

Programme elements

06.1.1 Market adaptation of energy-intensive industries in central and eastern Europe (1)
06.1.2 Transition of coal industry from central planning to market economy
06.1.3 The implication of economic reforms in central and eastern Europe on electric power demand, supply and cooperation
06.1.4 Economic reforms and restructuring in eastern and central Europe - their implications and significance for gas market and the gas industry in the ECE region

Programme activity 06.2 Rational use of energy, efficiency and conservation

Programme elements

06.2.1 Energy Efficiency 2000 (2)
06.2.2 Energy efficiency standards (5)
06.2.3 Energy conservation developments, policies and prospects in the region (7)
06.2.4 Rational use of coal, efficiency and conservation
06.2.5 Energy efficiency in electric power
06.2.6 Rational use of gas, including conservation and efficiency measures

Programme activity 06.3: Interface between energy and the environment

Programme elements

06.3.1 Interface between energy and environment: sustainable development (4)
06.3.2 Economic instruments for sustainable energy development (9)
06.3.3 Sustainable coal development
06.3.4 Environmental protection related to coal mining and coal utilization
06.3.5 Environmental aspects in electric power
06.3.6 Sustainable development in electric power
06.3.7 Gas industry and the environment, including climate change and sustainable development

Programme activity 06.4: Energy policies and prospects and related statistics and projections

Programme elements

06.4.1 National energy programmes, policies and prospects, and related balances, projections and data banks (3)
06.4.2 Annual Bulletin of Energy Statistics for Europe (11)
06.4.3 Overview of energy activities in ECE (12)

Programme activity 06.5:
Energy demand and supply issues for sustainable development
Programme elements
06.5.1 Significant new developments affecting energy demand and supply in the short and medium run (6)
06.5.2 New and renewable sources of energy (NRSE) (8)
06.5.3 Developments in the coal industry
06.5.4 Electric power developments
06.5.5 Developments in the gas industry, including trade and interconnections/extension of gas networks

Programme activity 06.6: Energy trade, trade facilitation and infrastructure
Programme elements
06.6.1 Energy trade in the ECE region in the worldwide context (10)
06.6.2 Market trends and trade facilitation in the coal industry
06.6.3 Gas trade and interconnections/extensions of gas networks in Europe
06.6.4 Interconnection of electric power in Europe

SUB-PROGRAMME 07 - DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

See E/ECE/1290/Add.1

SUB-PROGRAMME 08 - INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

08(A) - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, approved by the Senior Advisers at their twentieth session (ECE/SC.TECH/44, paras. 22-23 and Annex).

Programme activity 08(A).1: Current developments in science and technology policies
Programme elements
08(A).1.1 Review of changes in national policies, priorities and institutions, and international cooperation (1)
08(A).2.2 State policy in economies in transition aimed at promoting innovation (3)

Programme activity 08(A).2: Selected issues in science and technology
Programme elements
08(A).2.1 Inventory of existing safety guidelines in biotechnology (2)

08(B) - CHEMICALS

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on the Chemical Industry, approved by the Working Party at its third session (ECE/CHEM/92, paras. 40-42 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(B).1: Long- and medium-term trends and prospects including current developments and statistics in the chemical industry

- 08(B).1.1 The Chemical Industry: Annual Review (1)
- 08(B).1.2 Market trends and outlook for selected chemical products (10)
- 08(B).1.3 Development of internationally comparable statistics, including those for specialized products (7)
- 08(B).1.4 Publication of the Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products (11)

Programme activity 08(B).2: Chemical industry - sustainable economic and ecological development (CHEMISEED) and other environmental and resource issues in the chemical industry

Programme elements

- 08(B).2.1 Environmental clean-up of selected chemical waste sites in central and eastern Europe (4)
- 08(B).2.2 Chemical legislation in the countries of the ECE region (3)
- 08(B).2.3 Complex utilization of raw materials using advanced low- and non-waste process technologies (7)
- 08(B).2.4 Regional Environmental Management Centre for the Chemical Industry (8)
- 08(B).2.5 Waste treatment in industrial parks (5)

Programme activity 08(B).3: Economic issues and information on the chemical industry including assistance to countries in transition

Programme element

- 08(B).3.1 Directory of the Chemical Industry (2)
- 08(B).3.2 Trends in structural and ownership changes in the chemical industries of the economies in transition (6)
- 08(B).3.3 Studies of national developments in the chemical industry (9)

08(C) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, approved by the Working Party at its twelfth session (ECE/ENG.AUT/51, para. 44 and Annex I)

Programme activity 08(C).1: Current medium- and long-term trends and prospects in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

08(C).1.1 Medium- and long-term assessment of engineering industries in national, regional and global economies (3)

08(C).1.2 Current developments and prospects in engineering industries and automation, including appropriate aspects of international cooperation in this sector (2)

Programme activity 08(C).2: The role of engineering industries in environmental protection and resource saving

Programme elements

08(C).2.1 Foundry production and ecology (5)

08(C).2.2 Low-waste processes and automated equipment for the production of precision instruments for engineering industries (8)

08(C).2.3 Workshop to be held in conjunction with the Kuban's Sun-93 electric vehicle rally (7)

Programme activity 08(C).3: Special issues in engineering industries and automation of relevance to economies in transition

Programme elements

08(C).3.1 Adjustment of engineering industries in economies in transition (4)

Programme activity 08(C).4: Selected issues in the engineering industries and in automation

Programme elements

08(C).4.1 Rehabilitation engineering (6)

Programme activity 08(C).5: Statistics in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

08(C).5.1 Development of internationally comparable statistics (1)

08(D) - STANDARDIZATION

Authority: Programme of work of Working Party on Standardization Policies, approved by Working Party at its third session (ECE/STAND/38, para. 18 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(D).1: Coordination

Programme elements

08(D).1.1 Identification of problems (6)

08(D).1.2 Regular guidance for programme of work for international standardization through identification of sectors which are of interest to member Governments (7)

08(D).1.3 Preparation and implementation of recommendations (8)

Programme activity 08(D).2: Harmonization

Programme elements

08(D).2.1 Review of developments, prospects and problems at the international, regional and national levels (9)

08(D).2.2 Measures to facilitate the harmonization of principles and practices of standardization and related activities (10)

08(D).2.3 Measures to facilitate the implementation of standards and technical regulations (11)

08(D).2.4 Approval of definitions of terms used internationally in the fields of standardization and related activities (12)

08(D).2.5 Presentation of ECE recommended standards and harmonized technical regulations (13)

08(D).2.6 Preparation and implementation of recommendations (14)

Programme activity 08(D).3: Conformity assessment

Programme elements

08(D).3.1 Identification of problems (1)

08(D).3.2 Promotion of international certification systems and arrangements (2)

08(D).3.3 Measures to achieve mutual confidence in the technical competence and reliability of national conformity assessment systems (3)

08(D).3.4 Establishment of normative documents relating to testing activities and laboratory accreditation (4)

08(D).3.5 Aspects of metrology relevant to testing activities (5)

08(E) - STEEL

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Steel, approved by the Working Party at its third session (ECE/STEEL/83, paras. 50-51 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(E).1: Long-term trends and prospects in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

08(E).1.1 Long-term prospects in the iron and steel industry (8)

Programme activity 08(E).2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in the iron and steel industry, including international trade

Programme elements

08(E).2.1 Short-term developments and prospects in the steel industry and the steel market (1)

08(E).2.2 Studies of national developments in the iron and steel industry (3)

Programme activity 08(E).3: Economic and technological issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

08(E).3.1 Economic aspects of developments in the quality of steel products (7)

08(E).3.2 Recent developments in the consumption and trade in steel in ECE member countries (6)

08(E).3.3 Restructuring and changing ownership in the steel industry (4)

08(E).3.4 Privatization and structural changes in the steel industry in countries in transition (4)

Programme activity 08(E).4: Environmental and resource issues in the iron and steel industry - metallurgy and ecology

Programme elements

08(E).4.1 Iron and steel scrap: its significance and influence on further developments in the iron and steel industries (5)

08(E).4.2 The steel industry and recycling (5)

08(E).4.3 Metallurgy and ecology (5)

Programme activity 08(E).5: Iron and steel statistics

Programme elements

08(E).5.1 Development of steel statistics (2)

08(E).5.2 Publication of steel statistics (2)

SUB-PROGRAMME 09 - AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

09(A) - AGRICULTURE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, approved by the Committee at its forty-fourth session (ECE/AGRI/122, para.27 and Annex II)

Programme activity 09(A).1: Economic analysis of the agri-food sector

Programme elements

09(A).1.1 Review of recent developments and prospects in agriculture and agricultural policies in the European region (5)

09(A).1.2 Review of agricultural markets and trade (6)

09(A).1.3 Activities of the FAO/ECE Working Party on the Economics of the Agri-Food Sector and Farm Management (1)

09(A).1.4 Prices of agricultural products and inputs (9)

09(A).1.5 National agricultural accounts (13)

09(A).1.6 Processing of agricultural products (14)

Programme activity 09(A).2: Agriculture and the environment

Programme elements

09(A).2.1 Economic, legal, technological and regulatory measures for the promotion of environmentally sustainable agriculture and production of healthy food: survey of current measures, recommendations, guidelines, codes; effective implementation and monitoring of compliance; economic and social impact; elaboration of new measures and regulations (2)

09(A).2.2 Integrated environmentally sound agricultural practices (4)

09(A).2.3 Effects of radionuclear contaminations and measures for the elimination of their consequences for agriculture (11)

09(A).2.4 The relation between environmental factors (including pollution by industries and other human activities) and the quantity and quality of agricultural production: economic, regulatory and institutional aspects (8)

Programme activity 09(A).3: Standardization of perishable produce and quality development

Programme elements

09(A).3.1 Activities of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development (3)

Programme activity 09(A).4: Food and agricultural statistics

Programme element

09(A).4.1 Improvement, development and harmonization of food and agricultural statistics (7)

09(A).4.2 New agricultural statistics in transition countries (10)

09(A).4.3 Handbook for international collections of statistics (12)

SUB-PROGRAMME 09(B) - TIMBER

Authority: At its fifty-first session, the Timber Committee approved the programme of work in annex I of ECE/TIM/71, but asked its office-holders to revise it in the light of UNCED and the follow-up to the Helsinki Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe. The text below is the version approved by the office-holders at their meeting on 31 January-1 February 1994. This meeting, held jointly with the Executive Committee of the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC), approved an integrated programme for the two bodies. Some items for which the EFC is responsible are also shown for information, and to preserve a common numbering system.

Programme activity 09(B).1: Policies for sustainable development of the forest and forest industries sector (including analysis for policy formulation)

Programme elements

09(B).1.1 Contribution to the follow-up of UNCED and the Helsinki Ministerial Conference on Protection of Forests in Europe (1)
09(B).1.2 Outlook for the supply and demand of timber (3)
09(B).1.3 Outlook for the supply and demand of non-wood goods and services (8)
09(B).1.4 Review of rational forest policies and tropical policy issues (EFC responsibility)
09(B).1.5 Productivity in the forest sector (22)
09(B).1.6 Use of wood for energy (11)
09(B).1.7 Recycling of paper: consequences for the sector (15)
09(B).1.8 Forest sector policies in the Mediterranean region (EFC responsibility)
09(B).1.9 Promotion of public awareness and understanding, including public relations (10)

Programme activity 09(B).2: Data and information for sustainable development

Programme elements

09(B).2.1 Monitoring of the temperate and boreal forest resource (Forest Resource Assessment 2000) (5)
09(B).2.2 Collection and dissemination of forest products statistics (4)
09(B).2.3 Research networks on Mediterranean forestry questions (EFC responsibility)
09(B).2.4 Forest fire statistics (24)
09(B).2.6 Information on storm damage and other sudden damage to forests (23)

Programme activity 09(B).3: Promotion of sustainable forestry

Programme elements

09(B).3.1 Multiple use forestry (12)
09(B).3.2 Planning for sustainable forest management (20)
09(B).3.3 Rehabilitation of degraded and coppice forests in the Mediterranean region (21)
09(B).3.4 Management of mountain watersheds (EFC responsibility)
09(B).3.5 Afforestation of former agricultural land (14)
09(B).3.6 Development of the human resource (13)

Programme activity 09(B).4: Protection of forests, prevention and control of forest damage

Programme elements

09(B).4.1 Forest fire prevention and control (19)

09(B).4.2 Effects of pollution and climate change on forests and the sector as a whole (17)

09(B).4.3 Management of forests in areas contaminated by radiation (16)

09(B).4.4 Prevention of damage to forest sites (18)

Programme activity 09(B).5: Assistance to countries in transition

Programme elements

09(B).5.1 Implementation of Resolution H3 of the Helsinki Ministerial Conference (6)

09(B).5.2 Programme of activities for countries in transition, notably workshops (7)

- Institution building, including legal and policy infrastructure
- Development of economically sound enterprises

Programme activity 09(B).6: Forest industries and markets for forest products

Programme elements

09(B).6.1 Review of markets for forest products and short term forecasts (2)

09(B).6.2 Structural trends in markets for forest products and in the structure and capacity of forest industries (9)

SUB-PROGRAMME 10 - HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Human Settlements, approved by the Committee at its fifty-fourth session (ECE/HBP/89, para. 49 and Annex II).

Programme activity 10.1: Basic issues

Programme elements

10.1.2 Human settlements situation and related current trends and policies (3)

10.1.2 Development of human settlements statistics (6)

Programme activity 10.2:

Sustainable development of human settlements

Programme elements

10.2.1 Promotion of sustainable human settlements policies (including ecologically sound settlements) (2)

10.2.2 Major trends influencing human settlements development (7)

10.2.3 Human settlements problems in southern Europe (8)

Programme activity 10.3:

Process of socio-economic transition

Programme elements

10.3.1 Modernization policies for built-up areas (5)

10.3.2 Management of land, housing and building (4)

10.3.3 Practical transition problems (1)

ANNEX II

SUB-PROGRAMME 00 - POLICY AND COORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.1: ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

00.1.1 Review and guidance of the activities of the Commission as a whole: evaluation, coordination and formulation of the programme of work

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will consider its work as a whole; review and evaluate its own activity as well as that of its subsidiary bodies; guide the policy orientation, coordination and planning of the work carried out by the subsidiary bodies under its auspices; and formulate and approve its programme of work.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: At its annual sessions the Commission considers the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their work and the Executive Secretary's reports on the implementation of its relevant resolutions and decisions. The Commission considers and approves annually its programme of work for the following year and endorses in principle, subject to review at the following session, its long-term programme of work covering the next five years. The policy guidance given by the Commission, including measures for coordination, is embodied in its decisions to be implemented, as appropriate, by member Governments, by the Commission's subsidiary bodies and by its secretariat.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.2 The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

Description: In its decision O (45) the Commission decided on the following priority areas of activity: environment, transport, statistics, trade facilitation, and economic analysis. The Commission also decided on practical measures in these priority areas and on the broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities in order to promote the process of economic reform and integrate the economies in transition into the global economy. The Commission also agreed on a series of measures on the methods of work, the structure and the resources of the Commission. The Commission recalled that in accordance with decision O (45) account should be taken of the impact that ECE activities in sectors not identified as priorities, such as energy, have on priority sectors.

Work accomplished: With regard to Commission decision O (45), the priorities as designated were incorporated in the revised Medium-term Plan for 1992-1997 and in the draft budget proposal for the biennium 1994-1995.

With respect to decision A (46), its provisions have been implemented primarily through the redeployment of human and financial resources from

programme areas not designated as priorities to the five designated priority areas.

Work to be undertaken: The Commission, taking note of the Executive Secretary's note (E/ECE/1292) on the implications of resolutions of the General Assembly and of ECOSOC for the work of the UN/ECE, including Assembly resolution 48/204 on international cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery, requested the Executive Secretary to bring the work of the Commission to the attention of the Secretary-General to assist him in the preparation of the reports which he is required to submit to the Assembly and invited its subsidiary bodies to consider possible work within their competence and ongoing activities which could contribute to the implementation of General Assembly resolutions and to study possible action to contribute to global programmes of the United Nations including forthcoming or recent global Conferences or international years.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: One year (1994/1995)

00.1.3 Commission activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy, including facilitating access to markets for countries in transition

Description: Taking into account the fact that the recent and current developments in central and eastern Europe modify the characteristics and functioning of the societies and economies of countries of the region, the Commission, in its decisions D (45), B (46), D (47) and B (48), considered that in view of its composition and the nature of the cooperation which it implements it had a role to play in assisting the transition to market economies.

In its decision O (45) the Commission noted that work in its five priority sectors contributed significantly to promoting reform and integration or reintegration of the economies in transition with the economies of the ECE region and therefore with the global economy. It decided, in order to promote the process of economic reform, on broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities, and determined that the primary work methods employed to address transition issues should be workshops and other similar informal fora.

Work accomplished: The Commission has continued to organize activities to assist the countries of the region which are in transition to a market economy. In particular the ECE programme of workshops has developed further and over 110 workshops have been held, with approximately 55 on the provisional programme of future workshops. To assist those countries to finance participation in the workshops a trust fund has been set up to receive contributions from member Governments, donor organizations and institutions and the private sector (see document E/ECE/1287). The Principal Subsidiary Bodies reviewed their programmes and methods of work to permit a rapid and effective response to the needs of the economies in transition. These activities were carried out in close collaboration with the international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular those identified in decisions D (45), O (45) and B (46).

Work to be undertaken: The workshop programme will continue according to the parameters stated above. Analytical work on the transition process, including internal and external conditions, will continue to be accorded high priority, in accordance with decision B (46). In response to paragraph 7 of decision B (48) and as a result of measures taken by the Secretary-General to promote decentralization of the Organization's activities in the economic and social sectors, ECE will launch in the course of the 1994/95 biennium a programme of regional advisory services designed to foster economic development within the region.

Member Governments, the European Community and competent international institutions will continue to be invited to participate actively in transition-related activities, and encouraged to provide continued assistance, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, for promoting such activities.

The Principal Subsidiary Bodies will continue to contribute within their competence to the preparation of practical workshops especially on the transition to market economy.

The Executive Secretary will continue to facilitate consultations with interested countries and international institutions in order to provide expertise on programmes of transition to a market economy. (See also sub-programme 05.)

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.4 Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992, as well as economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

Description: The Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies pay particular attention to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Final Act and other Concluding Documents of the CSCE. The Commission's subsidiary bodies identify areas of interest, particularly in the field of transport and environment, for economic cooperation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and the Commission's programme of work. The Executive Secretary cooperates with the secretariats of ESCWA and ECA and other relevant United Nations bodies and pursues contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries. (See document E/ECE/1288.)

Work accomplished: With respect to cooperation with the CSCE, the secretariat has participated in all relevant meetings of the CSCE, including the CSCE Mediterranean Seminar in Valletta (Malta) in May 1993, the Rome Council Meeting in December 1993, the Special Ad Hoc Meeting of Senior Officials to identify international projects to assist affected States in the region to better cope with the effects of the Sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), held in Vienna from 31 January to

1 February 1994, and the first two meetings of the Economic Forum, established under the terms of the Helsinki document 1992, in March 1993 and 1994. It has further participated in an active exchange of documentation on relevant activities of the two bodies in order to avoid duplication of functions (see document E/ECE/1288).

Work to be undertaken: The subsidiary bodies will take into account in their work the provisions of the relevant CSCE documents, in particular the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Helsinki Document 1992 and the documents of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation, which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE. They will also contribute in the appropriate manner to the CSCE Economic Forum, including its programme of seminars, on matters where the ECE has competence and can provide expertise and experience and which at the same time avoid possible duplication with activities undertaken by other international organizations.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.5 Institutional arrangements for ECE

Description: In accordance with decision P (45), ad hoc informal meetings of the Commission are convened at least once every three months by the Chairperson of the Commission, with, inter alia, the following tasks: (a) to consult on policy matters concerning the activities of the Commission; (b) to assist preparations for the annual sessions of the Commission; (c) to monitor progress in the work programmes of the Commission; (d) to offer any necessary guidance to the Executive Secretary on the work of the Commission.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: Ad hoc informal meetings will be convened by the Chairperson of the Commission in accordance with decision P (45).

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.6 The provision of adequate resources for the servicing of the priority and other sectors of the Economic Commission for Europe

Description: In its decision E (48) the Commission, conscious that the effective and efficient management of the ECE, like that of other UN organizations, depends upon the reliable provision of resources, both financial and human, including skilled professionals, and aware that its increased membership had expanded the ECE's activities and imposed extra demands on its tightly-stretched resources, noted with concern that unfilled vacancies at the professional level in the priority sectors and other sectors are seriously impeding both technical and practical work of importance to the member States, as well as the ability of the secretariat to respond to the growing needs of countries in transition.

Work accomplished: The Executive Secretary has regularly provided information on the deployment of resources both under the regular budget and from extra-budgetary contributions to Permanent Missions in Geneva and to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. He has also cooperated closely with United

Nations Headquarters in the filling of key vacancies in the secretariat and in the allocation of financial resources to mandated programmes.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: One year (1994/95).

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.2: RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

00.2.1 Review and follow-up of resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly bearing on the work of the Commission

Description: At its annual sessions, the Commission will review the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly which have a bearing on its work and will decide on the action to be taken by it in the light of the provisions of those resolutions and decisions.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review on the basis of the Executive Secretary's note (see document E/ECE/1292) in which he brings to the Commission's attention the resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission which were adopted by the Economic and Social Council and by the General Assembly during the period since the previous session of the Commission, and the relevant work underway.

Duration: Continuing.

00.2.2 The ECE's contribution to the preparatory work for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995

Description: In accordance with decision J (40) the Executive Secretary is called upon to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region in conjunction with other research activities of the secretariat, taking into account the roles and responsibilities of the regional commissions in developing and implementing the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. In accordance with decision H (44) the secretariat was called upon to concentrate on an inventory of the scope and content of time-use questionnaires and of time-use studies, and to make this data available to member countries. By its resolution 1990/12 the Economic and Social Council called for a World Conference on Women in 1995. As a follow-up to decisions J (40) and H (44) and Council resolution 1990/12, the Commission adopted decision K (48) in order to provide a regional contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference.

Work accomplished: The secretariat has initiated action to prepare the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference through the establishment of a secretariat-level task force. It has appealed to member States for financial contributions to support the Regional Preparatory Meeting, which will be held at the Vienna International Centre on 17-21 October 1994, and has convened two intergovernmental consultative meetings on the provisional agenda for the Regional Meeting.

The Conference of European Statisticians has convened meetings on improved measurements of women's labour-force participation and statistical indicators required by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies in countries of the ECE region and will convene the next one in 1995. It is expected that such statistical input on women's issues will continue and will provide substantive input for the 1995 World Conference on Women. The ECE is presently cooperating with INSTRAW on a training and exchange programme involving women farmers in selected central and east European countries.

Work to be undertaken: ECE has a joint Working Party with FAO which has launched a project on "Analysis of the socio-economic status of rural women and families in selected European countries" in cooperation with the FAO Working Party on Women and the Agricultural Family. ECE is currently investigating the possibilities of cooperating with UNIDO on a joint typology examination of women's involvement in economic and industrial development for the European region, with the aim of identifying strategies and mechanisms to provide women with access to, and participation in, the industrial services sector and to increase women's integration into upper echelons of economic and industrial management. The work is envisaged as being a regional contribution to the 1995 World Conference on Women.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing.

00.2.3 The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

Description: The Commission welcomed General Assembly resolution 44/227 on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond and 42/187 on the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), as well as General Assembly resolution 44/288 on the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

Work accomplished: The Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems prepared a contribution to the Lucerne Ministerial Conference on Environment for Europe containing elements for a long-term environmental programme for Europe and ensuing proposals for the Ministerial Declaration (see document E/ECE/1275). A report on the work of the ECE to implement Agenda 21 has been prepared for transmission to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in May 1994.

The Executive Secretary has carried out a study on the feasibility of organizing a regional conference on transport and environment, in cooperation with member States, the European Community and interested organizations, making full use of the expertise and taking into account the views of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned.

Work to be undertaken: The Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics will continue to meet and consider issues related to sustainable economic development namely: environment and economics; assessment of the situation in economies in transition; economic restructuring and the environment; financing environmental policy and use of economic instruments for environmental policies. The Senior Economic Advisers, in coordination with the OECD and the UNCED secretariat, will analyse further the interrelationship between economic activity and the environment, identify major factors

affecting sustainable economic development in the ECE and study guidelines to achieve such sustainable economic development in the region, taking into account the particular situation of the countries in transition.

The Executive Secretary will continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other regional commissions the ECE activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international cooperation in this field, and in particular the results and follow-up of the Bergen Conference.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Five years (1988-1995).

00.2.4 International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

Description: As a follow-up to decision C (46), Assembly resolution 47/165 and Council resolution 1992/38, the Commission adopted decision J (48) which expressed profound concern about the persisting effects on people's lives and health of the Chernobyl catastrophe, which had serious national and international consequences, and noted the work being done by the Timber Committee, Committee on Agriculture and the Conference of European Statisticians.

Work accomplished: A number of ECE subsidiary bodies have continued to review proposals for activities to address and mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. The secretariat has continued its participation in the work of the Coordinator for International Cooperation and has contributed to the preparation by the Secretary-General of the analytical review of the United Nations activities to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, mentioned in paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 47/165. The secretariat has also consulted UNIDO on possible forms of cooperation in the field of water.

Work to be undertaken: The Commission called upon the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, which due to their respective spheres of competence could contribute to activities of the Commission related to assistance to the countries affected by the Chernobyl accident, to consider their possible participation taking into account the activities of other international organizations, WHO and IAEA in particular, to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.3: COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

00.3.1 Review of the Commission's cooperation with other United Nations bodies

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities in support of and its contribution to other United Nations programmes, especially those of UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP and UNFPA, as well as of the other

regional commissions. It will also consider matters relating to its cooperation with other United Nations bodies including the specialized agencies such as FAO, ILO, UNESCO, UNIDO and WHO, as well as IAEA. Special attention will be paid to problems of the member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view as part of the Commission's contribution to the global programmes and objectives of the United Nations aiming at economic development.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission carries out this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the participation of such organizations and programmes in the Commission's work; on the Commission's own contribution to the programmes of these organizations; and on the secretariat's cooperation with the secretariats of these organizations, including the secretariats of the other regional commissions.

Duration: Continuing.

00.3.2 Review of the Commission's cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities related to cooperation and coordination of its activities with other international economic organizations and institutions, and with international non-governmental organizations participating in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, with particular regard to those organizations and institutions mentioned in decision O (45).

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the relevant activities arising out of the participation of such organizations and their secretariats in, and the contribution they make to, the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies (see document E/ECE/1291).

Duration: Continuing.

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PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1994-1998

Note by the Executive Secretary

ANNEX I (cont.)

SUB-PROGRAMME 04 - TRADE FACILITATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its forty-second session (ECE/TRADE/187, para.31 and Annex).

Programme activity 04.1: Date elements and automatic data interchange (1)

Programme activity 04.2: International trade procedures and documentation (1)

GE.94- 20831

SUB-PROGRAMME 07 - DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its forty-second session (ECE/TRADE/187, para.31 and Annex).

Programme activity 07.1: Trade promotion

Programme elements

07.1.1 Preparation and revision of Guides relating to international commercial transactions (2)

07.1.2 Organization of seminars and workshops (3)

07.1.3 Information relevant to business operators (6)

Programme activity 07.2: Trade analysis

Programme elements

07.2.1 Discussion themes for Committee's annual sessions (4)

07.2.2 Analysis of recent and prospective trade trends, policies and problems (5)

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COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. Since its forty-eighth session the Commission and its secretariat, in accordance with the provisions of Commission decision O (45), have further strengthened their cooperation and coordination of activities with other international economic organizations and institutions, including bodies of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. This cooperation and coordination continues to be an important feature of the Commission's methods of work to ensure the optimum use of resources and expertise and to avoid duplication of activities. The wide range of organizations with which ECE cooperates reflects the dual capacity of the ECE as a United Nations programme and a regional body cooperating closely with other European institutions.

2. This note is divided into three parts. The first provides a detailed account of ECE's cooperation with organizations and institutions with which the ECE is encouraged to intensify its cooperation and coordination under the terms of decision O (45). They are as follows: the European Union, OECD, EBRD, IMF, the World Bank and GATT. The second part presents in the form of a synoptic table ECE's cooperation with other international and intergovernmental organizations. Part three contains a list of non-governmental organizations which have participated actively in the work of the ECE since the forty-eighth session.

3. Cooperation with the European Union and with OECD has proceeded in excellent fashion throughout the year. Cooperation with GATT and IMF has been strengthened. Further steps are to be taken to improve cooperation with EBRD and the World Bank.

GE.94- 20530

PART I

EUROPEAN UNION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

The Executive Secretary paid a visit to the Commission of the European Community in Brussels, where he met with the Commissioner responsible for External Relations and senior officials responsible for transport and the environment. He also held discussions concerning the PHARE and TACIS programmes, as well as ways of reinforcing the European Union's support for ECE activities designed to assist countries in transition.

ENVIRONMENT

The European Union and its Commission have participated in all aspects of the work of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems including:

- Meeting of the Signatories to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context
- Meeting of Signatories to the Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
- Task Force on legal and administrative aspects of the practical application of relevant provisions of the EIA Convention
- Task Force on the strengthening of the ability of countries in transition to prevent, prepare for respond to industrial accidents
- Working Group on Environment for Europe

It has also participated actively in the work of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution including:

- Working Group on Strategies
- Working Group on Effects
- Steering Body to EMEP
- International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests
- Task Force on emission inventories
- Task Force on integrated assessment modelling
- Task Force on emission projections

ECE has participated in the following activities of the European Union:

- Steering Committee for the Second European Conference on Environment and Health Europe

ECE held special consultations with the Commission of the European Community to ascertain its views concerning the feasibility of convening a regional conference on transport and the environment.

TRANSPORT

The Commission of the European Community has participated in the following activities of the Inland Transport Committee:

- Principal Working Party on Road Transport
- Principal Working Party on Rail Transport
- Principal Working Party on Inland Water Transport
- Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles

- Working Party on Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation
- Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
- Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport
- Working Party on Combined Transport
- Working Party on Transport Statistics
- Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics
- Working Party on Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs
- Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
- Meeting of Experts on Pollution and Energy
- Meeting of Experts on Noise
- Meeting of Experts on General Safety Provisions
- Ad hoc Meeting on the Facilitation of Border Crossings in International Rail Transport
- Ad hoc Group of Experts on Inland Waterways Infrastructure
- Ad Hoc Meeting on the Development of a European Railway Network
- Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
- Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
- Administrative Committee for the Coordination of Work of the Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles
- Workshop on Market adaptation of the inland navigation industry in central and eastern Europe and its integration into an all-European transport system

ECE has participated in the following activities of the Commission of the European Community:

- Motorway Working Group
- G-24 Group: ad hoc group on transport

ECE has held working level consultations with the Commission of the European Community on:

- Infrastructure networks
- Revision of the 1958 Agreement
- Preparation of a study on the requirements of coastal shipping using combined transport techniques
- Establishment of the European Network of Inland Waterways of International Importance
- Preparation of a Workshop on Problems Concerning the Organization of a Unified Inland Navigation Market in Europe
- Revision of the AETR Agreement

ECE held special consultations with the Commission of the European Community to ascertain its views concerning the feasibility of convening a regional conference on transport and the environment.

Other cooperation with CEC:

- Steering Committee on the follow-up to the Pan-European Transport Conference
- Inter-secretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (ECE, CEC, ECMT)

STATISTICS

ECE cooperation with OECD and EUROSTAT has been further enhanced by the introduction of a joint presentation of their programmes of work. OECD

and EUROSTAT attend the meetings of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians and have participated actively in the following activities of the Conference:

- Plenary Session of the Conference
- Working Party on Transport Statistics
- FAO/ECE Study Group on Food and Agricultural Statistics in Europe
- Meeting on Housing Statistics
- Joint ECE/ILO Meeting on Consumer Price Indices
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics
- Joint ECE/UNESCO Work Session on Cultural Statistics
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Specific Methodological Issues in Environment Statistics
- Work Session on Geographical Information Systems
- Work Session on Business Registers
- Workshop on the evaluation of results of technical assistance in statistical offices
- Work Session on Statistical Metadata
- Task Force Meeting on Physical Environment Accounting
- Meetings of the Bureau of the CES

ECE has participated in the following activities of Eurostat:

- EC Director Generals of National Statistical Offices (with EFTA)
- Service Statistics
- Agriculture statistics
- Development of international standards for statistical EDI
- Environment statistics
- Energy statistics
- Working Party on Projections
- Coordinating Committee for Statistics on Services
- Migration Statistics
- Demographic statistics
- Meeting of the Task Force on non-commercial services (with OECD and FAO)
- Household income
- Business registers
- European Comparison Programme (jointly with OECD)

Other cooperation with Eurostat:

- Adaptation of statistical services to transition and integration processes in Europe
- Tripartite Inter-secretariat Working Group meetings concerning coordination in various kinds of statistics (with Eurostat and OECD)

TRADE FACILITATION

The European Union and its Commission have participated actively in all the activities of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures.

ECE has participated in the following activities of the European Union:

- Eurostat Working Group of MD6 (EDIFACT/Statistics)
- Various meetings with DG.III on EDIFACT development.

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

The European Union and its Commission have participated actively in the activities of the Senior Economic Advisers.

ECE has participated in the following activities of the European Union:
- Preparation of a project on Industrial Restructuring in Central and Eastern Europe

ECE has held working level consultations with the Commission of the European Community on:
- Current developments and short-term prospects in the transition countries
- Problems of and progress in the transition to the market economy in central and eastern Europe
- Provision and exchange of data on developments in central and eastern Europe

Other cooperation with the Commission of the European Community:
- ECE regularly supplies several directorates of the Commission of the European Community with its analytical documents already at their pre-publication stage
- The Commission of the European Community supplies the ECE secretariat with information concerning the assistance supplied by the Commission and its member countries to the economies in transition.

ENERGY

The European Union and its Commission have participated in the following activities of the Committee on Energy:
- Working Party on Coal
- Working Party on Gas
- Working Party on Electric Power
- Steering Committee, Energy Efficiency 2000 Project
- Ad Hoc Meeting on Energy Efficiency Standards and Energy Labelling Systems
- Ad Hoc Meeting on the Promotion and Development of Market-based Gas Industry in Economies in Transition
- Meeting of Experts on Clean Coal Technologies
- Symposium on New Coal Utilization Technologies
- Workshop on Restructuring the Coal Industry in Central and Eastern Europe: Policy Investment and Social Aspects
- Workshop on Possibilities for Refurbishing Fossil-Fuel Power Stations

ECE has participated in the following activities of the European Union:
- G-24 Working Group on Energy

The Commission of the European Community has organized the following activity in cooperation with ECE:
- Workshop on the Opportunities for the Development of New Economic Activities in the Coal Mining Regions in Central and Eastern Europe

DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The European Union and its Commission have participated in the activities of the Committee on the Development of Trade.

INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

The Commission of the European Community has participated in the following ECE activities:

- Working Party on the Chemical Industry
- Working Party on Steel
- Meeting of Experts on the Steel Market
- Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation
- Ad Hoc Meeting for the Study on Problems arising from the Use of Iron and Steel Scrap
- Seminar on Metallurgy and Ecology
- Inter-secretariat Meeting on Steel Statistics

ECE has held working level consultations with the Commission of the European Community on:

- Industrial statistics
- Assistance to countries in transition
- Steel market developments
- The Global Review of the European Iron and Steel Industry
- Programme of activities
- The Comparative Study of Chemical Legislation in ECE Member Countries

AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

The European Union and its Commission have participated in the following ECE activities of the Committee on Agriculture and the Timber Committee:

- Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development, and its Meetings of Experts on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, of Dry and Dried Product, and of Meat
- FAO/ECE Study Group on Food and Agricultural Statistics in Europe

ECE has participated in the following activities of the European Union:

- Agro-Industrial and Forestry Research and Technological days (Exhibition and Conference) of the DG XII

ECE has held working level consultations with the Commission of the European Community on:

- Revision of UN/ECE Standards for perishable produce
- Preparation of joint activities in the field of agricultural statistics (inter-secretariat working group IWG/AGRI)
- Revision of the Customs Nomenclature and Tarrification of Heading 44.03 of the Harmonized System
- Establishment of a unified framework and database for forest fire statistics
- Cooperation in setting up an information system for the Forestry Sector (EFICS)

Other cooperation with the Commission of the European Community:

- Informal meeting on possibilities for cooperation in assistance to countries of central and eastern Europe in transition (DG I, Directorate for the PHARE Programme).

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

ECE has participated in the following activities of the European Union:
- European Conference on Urban Innovations

ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

The Executive Secretary met with the Secretary-General of OECD and with his senior collaborators. After a review of activities which ECE and OECD have in common it was agreed to initiate a new round of consultations to ensure closer cooperation. At the same time the Executive Secretary met with the Secretary General of the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the Executive Secretary of the Conference of European Ministers of Transport.

ENVIRONMENT

OECD has participated in the following ECE activities of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems and the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution:
- Meeting of Signatories to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
- Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics
- Working Group on Environment for Europe
- Seminar on Low-waste Technology
- Task Force on emission projections
- Task Force on persistent organic pollutants
- The Workshop organized in cooperation with OECD mentioned below

ECE has participated in the following activities of OECD:
- Environment Policy Committee
- Pollution Prevention and Control Group
- Air Management Policy Group
- Group on Economic and Environment Policy Integration
- Group on Environmental Performance
- Mission on Environmental Performance of Poland and Norway
- High-level Special Session on Trade and Environment
- Task Force of the Environmental Action Programme for Central and Eastern Europe
- Consultation on Chemical Accident Programme

Other cooperation with OECD:
Meetings under the auspices of the ECE organized in cooperation with OECD:
- Workshop on Economic Restructuring and the Environment

ECE held special consultations with OECD to ascertain its views concerning the feasibility of convening a regional conference on transport and the environment.

TRANSPORT

OECD and the CEMT have participated in the following ECE activities:
- Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

- Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

ECE has participated in the following activities of OECD:
- Working Party on Transport Statistics
- Expert Group on Target Road Safety Programme

ECE held special consultations with OECD and CEMT to ascertain their views concerning the feasibility of convening a regional conference on transport and the environment.

STATISTICS

ECE cooperation with OECD and EUROSTAT has been further enhanced by the introduction of a joint presentation of their programmes of work. OECD and EUROSTAT attend the meetings of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians and have participated actively in the following activities of the Conference:
- Plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians
- Working Party on Electronic Data Processing
- FAO/ECE Study Group on Food and Agricultural Statistics in Europe
- Joint ECE/ILO Meeting on Consumer Price Indices
- Work Session on Statistics of Services
- Work Session on Statistical Metadata
- Workshop on the evaluation of results of technical assistance in statistical offices
- Meetings of the Bureau of the CES

ECE has participated in the following activities of OECD:
- Joint Working Group on energy statistics (jointly with International Energy Agency)
- Expert Group Meeting on Assessment of the real performance of the private sector in transition countries (jointly with Economic Research Centre)
- Implementation of the Revised SNA and on Statistics of the Hidden and Informal Economy
- Meeting of the Task Force on non-commercial services (with EUROSTAT and FAO)
- European Comparison Programme (jointly with EUROSTAT)

Other cooperation with OECD:
- Adaptation of statistical services to transition and integration processes in Europe
- Tripartite Inter-secretariat Working Group meetings concerning coordination in various kinds of statistics (Eurostat and OECD)

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

OECD has participated in the following ECE activities
- Senior Economic Advisers

ECE has held working level consultations with OECD on:
- Economic developments and prospects in central and eastern Europe
- Problems of and progress in transition to the market economy
- Statistics of the transition countries
- Financial situation in the transition countries
- Labour productivity in the western market economies

Other cooperation with OECD:
- Close cooperation with the OECD based Centre for Cooperation with the European Economies in Transition
- Exchange of reports on economic developments in transition countries at their preliminary and final stages.

ENERGY

OECD/IEA has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Working Party on Coal
- Meeting of Experts on Coal Trade, Transport and Statistics
- Symposium on New Coal Utilization Technologies
- Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Development of Opencast Mining Regions
- Workshop on Development of Environmental Regulation in Opencast Mining under Market Conditions
- Working Party on Gas

ECE has participated in the following activities of OECD/IEA:
- Steering Committee of the IEA/OECD GREENTIE (Greenhouse Gas Technology Information Exchange) Project
- OECD/IEA International Conference on the Economics of Climate Change

ECE held special consultations with IEA to ascertain its views concerning the feasibility of convening a regional conference on transport and the environment.

DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

OECD has participated in the following ECE activities
- Committee on the Development of Trade

ECE has participated in the following activities of OECD:
- Technical meeting on Foreign Direct Investment Statistics

INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

OECD has participated in the following ECE activities
- Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation
- Working Party on Steel
- Meeting of Experts on the Steel Market
- Inter-secretariat Meeting on Steel Statistics

ECE has participated in the following activities of OECD:
- WP No. 9 of the Industry Committee, Industrial Statistics

ECE has held working level consultations with OECD on:
- Joint ECE/OECD questionnaires
- Exchange of databases
- Steel statistics
- Science and technology indicators in the economies in transition

AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

OECD has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Committee on Agriculture
- Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development, and its Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
- ECE/FAO Working Party on Relations between Agriculture and the Environment
- FAO/ECE Study Group on Food and Agricultural Statistics in Europe
- Timber Committee

ECE has participated in the following activities of OECD:
- Committee for Agriculture
- OECD Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables
- Ad hoc Group on East/West Economic Relations in Agriculture
- Joint Working Party on Agriculture and Environment
- Conference on Agriculture and Environment in the Transition to Market Economy

ECE has held working level consultations with OECD on:
- Preparation of joint activities in the field of agricultural statistics (Inter-secretariat working group IWG/AGRI)

Other cooperation with OECD:
- Exchange of information on statistical matters concerning timber
- Preparation of OECD Workshop on agriculture - forestry - environment interactions

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

OECD has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Committee on Human Settlements

ECE has participated in the following activities of OECD:
- Group of Experts on Urban Affairs
- Group on Ecological City

EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (EBRD)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

The Executive Secretary's planned visit to the EBRD in London has been postponed at the request of the President of the Bank pending completion of the restructuring exercise under away in the EBRD. The Deputy Executive Secretary will represent the Secretary General at the annual session of the Bank to be held in St Petersburg in April 1994.

ENVIRONMENT

EBRD has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Task Force on strengthening of the ability of countries in transition to prevent, prepare for respond to industrial accidents

TRANSPORT

EBRD has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Workshop on Market adaptation of the inland navigation industry in central and eastern Europe and its integration into an all-European transport system

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

EBRD has participated in the following ECE activities
- Senior Economic Advisers

ECE has participated in the following activities of EBRD:
- EBRD round-table discussion on trade remedies and managed trade

ECE has held working level consultations with EBRD on:
- Current economic developments and short-term prospects of the transition countries
- Transformation process in central and eastern Europe
- Collection and dissemination of data on the transition countries
- In-depth analysis in individual countries in transition

Other cooperation with EBRD:
- Regular supply to EBRD of the ECE analytical documents at the preliminary (pre-publication) stage
- Exchange of country reports on individual economies in transition.

ENERGY

EBRD has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project
- Symposium on Energy Efficiency and Economic Transition in Central and Eastern Europe
- Ad Hoc Meeting on Methods of Financing Energy Efficiency Demonstration Zones

ECE has held working level consultations with EBRD on:
- The initiative on promotion and development of market-based gas industry in economies in transition

DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

EBRD has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry

INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

ECE has held working level consultations with EBRD on:
- The Global Review of the European Iron and Steel Industry

AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

- ECE has established working relations to identify where EBRD could participate in assistance to countries in transition in the Timber Section

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

The Executive Secretary visited the Managing Director of the Fund and held discussions concerning areas of cooperation between ECE and the Fund.

STATISTICS

IMF has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians
- Joint ECE/ILO Meeting on Consumer Price Indices
- Workshop on the evaluation of results of technical assistance in statistical offices
- Two meetings of the CES Bureau

ECE has participated in the following activity of IMF:
- Inter-agency coordination of technical assistance in statistics to countries of the former Soviet Union

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

IMF has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Senior Economic Advisers

ECE has held working level consultations with IMF on:
- Current economic developments and short-term prospects of the transition countries
- Transformation from centrally-planned to market economy in central and eastern Europe
- Foreign trade of central and east European countries

Other cooperation with IMF:
- Regular supply to IMF of the ECE analytical documents at their preliminary (pre-publication) stage

DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

- IMF has participated in the session of the Committee on the Development of Trade

WORLD BANK

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

The Executive Secretary has held consultations with the Vice-President of the Bank responsible for the Europe and Central Asia Regional Office, and with senior officials of that Office.

STATISTICS

The World Bank has participated in the following ECE activities
- Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians
- Work Session on Geographical Information Systems
- Two meetings of the CES Bureau

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

The World Bank has participated in the following ECE activities
- Senior Economic Advisers

ECE has held working level consultations with the World Bank on:
- Foreign trade of the central and east European countries
- Transformation of centrally-planned into market economies

Other cooperation with the World Bank:
- Exchange of analytical documents at the prepublication stage

ENERGY

The World Bank has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Symposium on Energy Efficiency and Economic Transition in Central and Eastern Europe

ECE has held working level consultations with the World Bank on:
- The initiative on promotion and development of market-based gas industry in economies in transition

INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

ECE has held working level consultations with the World Bank on:
- The Global Review of the European Iron and Steel Industry
- Environmental protection in the iron and steel industry

AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

The World Bank has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Team of specialists on forest management in areas contaminated by radiation (Belarus)

Other cooperation with the World Bank
- Regular exchange of information on matters related to the forestry and forest products sector
- Exchange of forest sector information in relation to countries in transition

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

The Executive Secretary met with the Director General of GATT and his senior collaborators to discuss closer cooperation between ECE and GATT, with particular regard to activities in the field of trade and economic analysis relating to countries in transition

ENVIRONMENT

The ECE services several important environment conventions and serves as the forum for region-wide harmonization and rules for environmental protection. It has convened seminars and international standards for

environmental protection and energy efficiency. The Transport Division is preparing studies on matters relating to transport and the environment. As emphasis will now be given in the new WTO to links between trade and the environment, close contacts between the ECE Environment and Human Settlements Division and the Energy Division and the relevant WTO secretariat services yet to be set up should undoubtedly be established as soon as possible.

STATISTICS

GATT has participated in the following ECE activities:
- Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians
- Working Party on Electronic Data Processing
- FAO/ECE Study Group on Food and Agricultural Statistics in Europe

ECE has participated in the following activity of GATT:
- Task Force on Trade Statistics

TRADE FACILITATION

GATT has participated in the following ECE activities
- Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures

DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Over the years close and fruitful contacts between the ECE and GATT secretariats have been established in the field of technical barriers to tradae. This is further strengthened by the fact that many of the office-bearers of the ECE Working Party on Standardization Policies are also office-bearers in the relevant GATT (and EC, EFTA) bodies. This ensures that there is no duplication of work and that GATT, ECE and ISO terminology is harmonized.

The ECE secretariat has some expertise in the field of trade in services notably as regards statistics, reinsurance and publicity. Since the General Agreement on Trade in Services has brought this area of the world economy (accounting for 60% of world production and 20% of international trade according to GATT secretariat estimates) under multilateral disciplines for the first time. There might well be scope for ECE/WTO cooperation in this area in the future.

ECE has participated in the following activities of GATT:
- Sessions of the Contracting Parties, of the Council of Representatives and of Working Parties dealing with the trade policy review mechanisms and the review of the terms of accession of certain ECE countries to GATT

INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

ECE recommendations on standardization policies serve to extend the application of some of the provisions of the GATT Agreement on Technical Barriers also to those ECE member countries which are not yet GATT Contracting Parties and to provide more detailed instructions as to how the GATT rules might be met for instance in fields such as conformity assessment and metrology. The ECE is currently undertaking a complete review of these recommendations and will take into account the revisions or the GATT Agreement which resulted from the Uruguay Round negotiations.

AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

GATT has participated in the following ECE activities

- Committee on Agriculture
- ECE/FAO Working Party on Relations between Agriculture and the Environment
- Timber Committee

ECE has participated in the following activities of GATT:

- Meeting on International Dairy Agreement
- International Dairy Products Council
- International Meat Council

PART II

Programme category	United Nations	Agencies of the UN system	Intergovernmental organizations and institutions
Executive Direction	Department for Development Support and Management Services (DDSMS) Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis (DESIPA) Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (DPCSD) UN Department for Humanitarian Affairs (UNDHA) UN Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (UNCSDHA) UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) UN Development Programme (UNDP) UN Population Fund (UNFPA) Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	International Labour Organization (ILO) Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) International Telecommunication Union (ITU) UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) World Health Organization (WHO)	Council of Europe European Free Trade Association (EFTA)

Programme category	United Nations	Agencies of the UN system	Intergovernmental organizations and institutions
Executive Direction (cont.)	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Institute for Training and Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) International Trade Centre (ITC)		
Environment	DPCSD, UNDP, UNEP, UNCTAD, UN Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), UNDHA	ILO, FAO, WHO, Universal Postal Union (UPU), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), IAEA	Council of Europe
Transport	DPCSD, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, ECA, ESCAP, ESCWA	ILO, FAO, ICAO, WHO, IMO, IAEA	Danube Commission, EFTA, Customs Cooperation Council (CCC), Inter-national Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR), Intergovernmental Organization for Inter-national Carriage by Rail (OTIF), Committee of the Organization for Cooperation between Rail-ways (OSZhD), International Institute of Refrigeration

Programme category	United Nations	Agencies of the UN system	Intergovernmental organizations and institutions
Statistics	DESIPA, ESCAP, UNCTAD, UNEP-GEMS, UNICEF	ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO,	Council of Europe, EFTA, IOM, Nordic Statistical Secretariat
Trade facilitation	UNCTAD, ESCAP, UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), UNDP, ITC	ILO, UPU, ITU, International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT), IMO, UNIDO	CCC, OCTI, EFTA
Economic analysis	DESIPA, UNCSDHA, UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU/WIDER), Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNRISD	FAO, ILO, IMF	Council of Europe, EFTA
Energy	DDSMS, DPCSD, UNDP, UNEP, ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA, Interim Committee on Climate Change	ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WMO, UNIDO, IAEA	
Development of international trade	DPCSD, UNCTAD, ITC	UNIDO	Council of Europe, ICC
Industry and technology	DESIPA, UNCTAD, UNEP	ILO, UNESCO, WHO, ITU, UNIDO	EFTA, Intermetal, International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML)
Agriculture and timber	DPCSD, UNCTAD, UNEP	ILO, FAO, WHO, IAEA	Council of Europe, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), CCC
Human Settlements	DPCSD, HABITAT		

PART III

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVING CO-OPERATED WITH THE COMMISSION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Non-governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with ECOSOC

CATEGORY I

International Chamber of Commerce
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
International Cooperative Alliance
International Council of Women
International Council on Social Welfare
International Organization for Standardization
World Federation of United Nations Associations

CATEGORY II

American Association of Retired Persons
Associated Country Women of the World
Conference of European Churches
International Air Transport Association
International Association of Classification Societies
International Automobile Federation
International Chamber of Shipping
International Council of Environmental Law
International Council of Jewish Women
International Electrotechnical Commission
International Federation for Housing and Planning
International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering
International Federation of Agricultural Producers
International Federation of University Women
International Federation on Ageing
International Road Federation
International Road Safety
International Road Transport Union
ISI
International Touring Alliance
International Union for River Navigation
International Union of Architects
International Union of Public Transport
National Council of German Women's Organizations
Permanent International Association of Road Congress(es)
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises
World Coal Institute
World Conservation Union
World Energy Council
World Federation of Deaf
World Federation of Methodist Women
World LPG Forum
World Veterans Federation

ROSTER

European Chemical Industry Council
European Confederation of Agriculture
European Liquefied Petroleum Gas Association
European Powder Metallurgy Association
Federation of European Manufacturers of Friction Materials
Friends of the Earth
Greenpeace International
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
International Co-operative Alliance
International Federation for Heat Treatment and Surface Engineering
International Federation of Chemical Energy and General Workers' Unions
International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations
International Federation of Pedestrians
International Federation of Robotics
International Gas Union
International Iron and Steel Institute
International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association
International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers
International Real Estate Federation
International Transport Workers' Federation
International Union of Forestry Research Organizations
International Union of Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine
International Union of Real Property
La Leche League International
Rehabilitation International
World Mining Congress
World Wildlife Fund for Nature

Other non-governmental organizations

Arab Iron and Steel Union
Association of the Coal Producers of the European Community
CONCAWE
Confederation of Importers and Marketing Organizations in Europe of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
EUROFER
European Centre for Plastics in the Environment
European Committee for Standardization
European Committee of Associations of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers
European Community Dairy Association
European Confederation of Paint, Printing Ink and Artists' Colours Manufacturers Associations
European Confederation of Wood-Working Industries (CEI-Bois)
European Federation of Associations of Particle Board Manufacturers (PESYP)
European Federation of Autoproducers of Electricity
European Fertilizers Manufacturers' Association
European Forest Institute
European Industrial Gas Association
European Petroleum Industry Association
European Secretariat of Manufacturers of Light Metal Packaging
European Syndicate of Steel Drums
EUROTER
Federation of European Aerosol Associations

Other non-governmental organizations (cont.)

GLOBE E.C.
Hazardous Materials Advisory Council
Interdisciplinary Association for the Advancement of Rehabilitation and Assistive Technologies
Institute for Information Industry
Interfrigo
International Article Numbering Association
International Cargo Handling Coordination Association
International Committee on Coal Petrology
International Committee for the Prevention of Work Accidents in Inland Navigation
International Committee of Rail Transport
International Confederation of Drum Reconditioners
International Container Bureau
International Co-operative Alliance
International Express Carriers Conference
International Federation of Natural Gas Vehicles
International Forestry Student's Association
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee
International Nut Council
International Society of City and Regional Planners
International Technical Association for Tropical Timber
International Technical Committee for the Prevention and Extinction of Fire
International Union for the Conservation of Nature
International Union of Private Railway Truck Owners' Associations
International Union of Property Owners
International Union of Railways
Liaison Committee for the Manufacture of Automobile Equipment and Spare Parts
NGO Coalition Coordination for Europe
Nordic Committee on Disability
Nordic Development Centre for Rehabilitation Engineering
North African Port Management Association
Organization of European Sawmilling Industries (OES)
Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications
Transfrigoroute International
Union of the Natural Gas Industries in Europe
Working Party "Brussels 1952" (GTB)
World Conservation Monitoring Centre
World Energy Coalition

UNITED
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E

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Forty-ninth session
(Provisional Agenda item 6(d))

RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY including ECE's contribution to the preparatory work for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995, and strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. In this Note the Executive Secretary brings to the Commission's attention the resolutions and decisions 1/ bearing on the work of the Commission which were adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its regular session in 1993, and by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, namely during the period since the forty-eighth session of the Commission.

2. The resolutions and decisions are divided into two groups: Part I, those which directly bear on the work of the Commission, and Part II, those which the Commission may wish to keep in mind in its further work.

1/ The relevant extracts from these texts are quoted or summarized in this note as necessary. The full texts are contained in the official Records of the Council (E/1993/93 and Add.1) and of the General Assembly (A/48/49).

GE.94- 20486

PART I

A. RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS REGULAR SESSIONS, 1993

1993/5 1993 System of National Accounts

3. In the final operative paragraph, the Council

> "Agrees that the United Nations regional commissions should play a major role in the implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts in their respective regions and urges the Secretary-General to coordinate, at a high level, the mobilization of bilateral and multilateral resources for the implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts, including the necessary support for countries and the regional commissions"

4. The ECE, because of its lack of resources, is unable to play the major role envisaged by the ECOSOC resolution. However, it is intended that one of the new Regional Adviser posts will be dedicated to this area, and a specialist in the national accounts of countries in transition is being sought to fill a permanent post.

1993/6 Special session of the Statistical Commission

5. In the preamble of this resolution the Council recalls that the Statistical Commission has recommended strengthening the international statistical system, including "strengthened statistical divisions of the United Nations regional commissions and strengthened regional conferences of national chief statisticians in all five regions in terms of their responsibilities for statistical development in their regions"

6. In operative paragraph 1 the Council decided that a special session of the Statistical Commission should be held in 1994 "to review progress made in the implementation of the recommendations and decisions for strengthening the international statistical system in general (and) to monitor progress made in implementing the revised System of National Accounts and review plans for the further essential research work already identified".

7. It is in response to concerns such as these that the Conference of European Statisticians has developed further its coordination of statistical activity in the region including the joint presentation of the statistical programmes of major organizations. The ECE plays an important role in specific inter-agency task forces and it is anticipated that the ECE will be represented at the Special Session of the Statistical Commission.

1993/22 Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing

8. In operative paragraph 15 the Council "invites the regional commissions to take an active part in the preparations for and observance of the Year, focusing on the specific needs and requirements of each region".

9. In response to this invitation, and also in continuation of its previous work, which resulted in the UN/ECE/UNFPA publication Demographic Causes and Economic Consequences in Population Aging (Economic Studies No.3, 1992), the

secretariat will publish in 1994 another study relating to population aging, entitled Social Aspects and Country Reviews of Population Aging: Europe and North America, scheduled as No.6 in the same series.

1993/50 Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

10. In response to the provisions of decision 1993/50 the following action has been taken.

11. A new version of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.8) has been prepared in English and French by the ECE secretariat and published. The Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish versions are still in preparation but should be published soon. These new Recommendations have been considered by the relevant ECE bodies and other cooperating organizations (International Maritime Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, Central Office for International Railway Transport, Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine) and shall be implemented by 1 January 1995 through their respective legal instruments applicable to the international transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterway, sea and air.

12. Chapter 19 of Agenda 21 deals with the environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals including prevention of illegal international traffic in toxic and dangerous products. One of the programme areas of this chapter deals with the harmonization of classification and labelling of chemicals, which is one of the main terms of reference of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, mainly for purposes of transport safety and trade facilitation. In accordance with chapter 19, an International Conference on Chemical Safety will be convened under the auspices of WHO, ILO and UNEP and will be hosted by the Government of Sweden, in Stockholm from 25 to 29 April 1994. This Conference will discuss priorities for action for the implementation of the various programme areas of chapter 19, as well as the possible formal establishment of an intergovernmental forum for chemical safety. ECE Governments participating in the Conference may wish to bring operative paragraph 5 of ECOSOC Resolution 1993/50 to the attention of their representative to the Conference in order to avoid duplication of work and of competence in this area.

13. With regard to the provision of staff resources, the vacancies in the Transport Division have been filled on a temporary basis and steps have been taken to improve the situation on a more permanent basis.

1993/60 Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar

14. In the operative paragraphs of the resolution, the Council, inter alia:

> 3. Commends the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe on the work done in preparing the project evaluation report requested by the Council in resolution 1991/74;
>
> 4. Invites the scientific and technical institutions concerned to take part in the special session on the permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar, which will be held in Cairo in April 1994, under the

auspices of the Economic Commission for Europe and the International Tunnel Association;

5. Invites the States concerned and the competent bodies to cooperate with the Governments of Morocco and Spain in carrying out studies for the implementation of the project and to take part in the International Colloquium on the Permanent Link, which will be held at Seville, Spain, in 1994;

6. Requests the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe to take an active part in the follow-up to the project and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995;

7. Calls upon the Secretary-General to give his full support to the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe to enable them to carry out the above-mentioned activities and, within existing priorities, to provide them with the necessary resources."

15. The ECE secretariat has initiated contacts with the Governments of Morocco and Spain and with the Economic Commission for Africa with a view to identifying the project activities in which it could be involved and defining the modalities of such involvement, as well as the structure and contents of the report to be presented to ECOSOC at its substantive session of 1995.

1993/61 Strengthening the role of the regional commissions

16. In the resolution the Council reaffirms its support for decentralization in order to achieve a more effective distribution of responsibilities and tasks between global, regional and national entities in the economic, social and related fields. It took note of the measures taken by the Secretary-General to strengthen the work of the Organization at the regional level, and urged him to continue his efforts in that direction as appropriate. The Council also recommended to the General Assembly that, in connection with the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, it consider the recommendations made by the regional commissions.

1993/70 Scientific and technological aspects of the conversion of military capacity for civilian use and sustainable development

17. In operative paragraphs 1 and 2 the Council

1. Reaffirms that in the era of the global concern for the environment and in the new political climate, the conversion of military technologies for civilian use and sustainable development should receive international attention, with the appropriate support and involvement of the United Nations;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its second session a report on scientific and technological aspects of the conversion of military capacity for civilian use and sustainable development, with a focus on technology assessment issues, particularly the economic effects,

employment implications and environmental consequences of alternative technological choices.

18. The Commission may wish to request its subsidiary bodies, in particular the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology, Senior Economic Advisers and Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems, to consider the opportunity of involvement in the activities related to the fields mentioned in the resolution and to submit their recommendations to the Commission at its fiftieth session.

1993/232 Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

(see paragraphs 33-34 below)

1993/316 Non-participation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Yugoslavia) in the work of the Economic Commission for Europe

19. The Council decided that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should not participate in the work of the Economic Commission for Europe as long as the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) did not participate in the work of the General Assembly.

1993/317 Amendment of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe

20. The Council approved the amendment of articles 3, 7, 9 and 10 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe, as contained in Commission decision N (48). Particular attention was given to article 7 relating to membership of ECE.

B. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

48/19 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

21. In accordance with the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the ECE has been assigned a central role within the United Nations for the economic construction of the new Europe. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Commission decision D (48) and paragraph 11 of decision C (48) the Commission has continued its work in implementing the relevant provisions of the Concluding documents of the CSCE. The secretariat has submitted written contributions to the first and second meetings of the CSCE Economic Forum and participated actively in both meetings. Cooperation between the secretariat of ECE and the CSCE has been intensified. An account of the Commission's activities in this field since the forty-eighth session is contained in document E/ECE/1288.

48/176 Human settlements

22. In operative paragraph 6 of the resolution the Assembly:

"Requests all Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to contribute and participate actively in the preparation for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

23. The Committee on Human Settlements at its fifty-fourth session in September 1993 considered the Committee's contribution to Habitat II and took concrete steps to this effect (ECE/HBP/89, para. 11). The Committee has submitted to the Commission a draft decision on the organization of a regional preparatory meeting for Habitat II as recommended in Assembly resolution 47/180.

48/181 Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

24. In the resolution the Assembly notes Commission decision B (48) and:

1. Reaffirms the need for the full integration of the countries with economies in transition, as well as all other countries, into the world economy, in particular through improved market access for their exports of goods and services; such integration will support the systemic transformation of countries with economies in transition towards market-oriented policies and will, simultaneously, have a positive impact on world trade and global economic growth and development;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen - within existing resources and through appropriate arrangements within the United Nations Secretariat - the ability of the United Nations system to conduct analytical activities and provide policy advice and technical assistance to the countries with economies in transition and to promote and enhance mutual cooperation with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, within their respective mandates;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to study - within the scope of the implementation of the present resolution and while continuing the existing cooperation with relevant international institutions and entities - possible areas of economic and technical cooperation among countries with economies in transition, as well as with the developing countries, identifying the role the United Nations system could play in this field, with a view to encouraging greater participation by those countries in the world economy.

25. During the discussion of the draft resolution in the Second Committee of the Assembly, the secretariat submitted a note outlining possible coordination arrangements within the secretariat which assigned a central role to ECE.

26. An account of ECE activities since the forty-eighth session to assist countries in transition to a market economy and to facilitate their integration into the global economy is contained in document E/ECE/1287.

48/190 Dissemination of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

27. In operative paragraph 2 of the resolution the Assembly:

"Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Declaration is widely disseminated by the competent organs and bodies of the United Nations system, and that its principles are incorporated in their programmes and processes, in accordance with paragraphs 32 and 42 of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its first session".

28. The Commission has formally adopted sustainable development as a guiding principle for all relevant activities of the ECE. Its Principal Subsidiary Bodies are promoting this principle by integrating environmental concerns and considerations into projects and programmes in all areas.

29. The ECE Action Plan to Implement Agenda 21 is being transmitted with the general approval of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems to the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development at its second session in May 1994, pursuant to Commission decision F (48).

30. In accordance with the invitation contained in Agenda 21 the Commission, in paragraph 4 of decision G (48) and paragraph 9 of decision F (48), requested the secretariat to carry out a feasibility study on the convening of a regional conference on transport and the environment. The Executive Secretary's report on the feasibility study is contained in document E/ECE/1299.

48/204 International cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery

31. In the resolution the Assembly:

"Reaffirms its appeal to all States, regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies to provide cooperation in various forms, and special and other assistance, in particular in the most severely affected areas and with a view to facilitating the return of refugees and internally displaced persons to those areas;

Requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the circumstances in the region, to carry out, in cooperation with the Government of Croatia, an assessment of needs for the rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of Croatia, and to introduce, if appropriate, an international appeal for the funding of a programme for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development".

32. The Commission may wish, as a follow up to paragraph 4 of decision D (48), to reiterate its request to its subsidiary bodies to study possible action to assist the Government of Croatia in sectors mentioned in the resolution and to submit their recommendations to the Commission at its fiftieth session. It may also wish to renew its request to the secretariat to submit the findings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies to the Secretary-General to assist him in preparing his report to the General Assembly.

48/206 Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

33. In the resolution the Assembly:

Requests the Secretary-General to continue the activities related to the follow-up to its resolutions 45/190, 46/150 and 47/165 and, in particular, to continue to maintain close contacts with the Commission of the European Communities and regional and other relevant organizations, with a view to encouraging the regular exchange of information, cooperation, coordination and complementarity in the multilateral and bilateral efforts in those areas, while implementing programmes and specific projects.

34. An account of ECE activities in this field is contained in the Note of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1297) in response to decision J (48).

PART II

A. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL REGULAR SESSIONS IN 1993

1993/23 International Year of the Family

1993/24 Tenth anniversary of International Youth Year and draft world programme of action for youth towards to year 2000 and beyond

1993/72 Science and technology for sustainable development

1993/76 Preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development

B. GENERAL ASSEMBLY FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

48/186 International Conference on Population and Development

48/189 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

48/210 Economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)